

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request consideration of the subject application as amended herein. This Amendment is submitted in response to the Office Action mailed August 22, 1995. Claims 1-28 and 41-44 are pending in this application. By the foregoing amendments, claims 6, 7, 12, 13, 15-17, 20 and 22-26 have been cancelled and no new claims have been added. Thus, claims 1-28 and 41-44 are presented for examination and Applicants request entry and consideration thereof.

Disclosure of the Office Action

In the Office Action of August 22, 1995, the Examiner rejected claims 1-28 and 41-44 under 35 USC §112, first paragraph. The specification has been amended to address each of the specific points raised by the Examiner. No new matter has been added by these amendments. Thus, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the §112 rejection. Applicants will address other issues presented in the August 22, 1995 Office Action in the order presented by the Examiner.

Discussion of Rejection of Claims 12, 13, 15-17, 20, 24, 25 and 26  
Under 35 USC §102(b)

The Examiner has rejected claims 12, 13, 15-17, 20, 24, 25 and 26 under 35 USC §102(b), as being anticipated by Takebe et al.,

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U.S. Patent No. 5,068,651. Although the Examiner has not noted the specific elements of the claimed invention that are anticipated by Takebe. Applicants have cancelled claims 12, 13, 15-17, 20, 24-26. Applicants therefore respectfully request withdrawal of the §102 rejection.

Discussion of Rejection of Claims 12, 13, 15-17, 20, 24, 25 and 26 Under 35 USC §102(e)

Claims 12, 13, 15-17, 20, 24, 25 and 26 have been rejected under 35 USC §102(e) as being unpatentable over Zenda, U.S. Patent No. 5,351,064. Applicants have cancelled claims 12, 13, 15-17, 20, 24, 25 and 26. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the §102 rejection.

Discussion of Rejection of Claims 6, 7, 22 and 23 Under 35 USC §102(b)

Claims 6, 7, 22 and 23 have been rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Shimada, U.S. Patent No. 4,630,039. Applicants have cancelled claims 6, 7, 22 and 23 and respectfully request withdrawal of the §102 rejection.

Discussion of Allowable Subject Matter

At section 11 of the August 22, 1995 Office Action, the Examiner indicated that claims 1-5, 8-11, 27, 28 and 41-44 are

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allowable over the prior art of record and would be allowed if the 35 USC §112, first paragraph, objection to the specification is overcome. Applicants respectfully submit that the amendments to the specification at pages 18, 19 and 21 overcome the Examiner's objection, and request withdrawal of the §112 objection.

Claims 14, 18, 19 and 21 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. The Examiner has indicated that the objected claims would be allowed if rewritten in independent form. The claims have been re-written in independent form such that claims 14, 18, 19 and 21 are now in order for allowance. Applicants respectfully solicit such action.

Summary

Having amended the claims, as discussed above, Applicants respectfully submit that the amended claims and dependent claims thereof are in condition for allowance, and Applicants respectfully request allowance of said claims.

In the event that the Examiner finds any remaining impediment to the prompt allowance of these claims that could be clarified with a telephone conference, he is respectfully to initiate the same with the undersigned at (703) 684-1111.

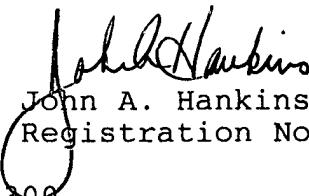
To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including

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extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 12-2237 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

LOWE, PRICE, LEBLANC & BECKER



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